

IIBA Informant

News from the Denver Chapter of the IIBA

October 13, 2015

In This Issue

[Upcoming Events](#)

[President's Letter](#)

[New Sponsor](#)

[View from the BABOK](#)

[September Meeting Recap](#)

[Leverage Your Resources](#)

[Membership News](#)

[Thank You!](#)

[Get Involved!](#)

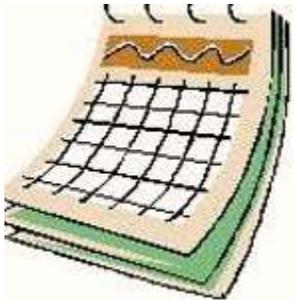
[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

Dear Analyst,

If you enjoy reading this newsletter and think that other Business Analysts, Project Managers, or Directors in your organization might enjoy it as well, it's easy to share. Just forward it to your colleagues.

Did someone forward this newsletter to you? Would you like to receive upcoming issues of this newsletter and learn more about IIBA and the Business Analysis profession? Just click on the ***Join Our Mailing List*** link on the [IIBA Denver Chapter website](#).

Looking forward to seeing you at the Fall Networking Event!



Location:

LoDo's Bar and Grill

8545 S Quebec Street
Highlands Ranch, CO 80126

Fall Networking Event - Please join us this Thursday!!

Thursday, October 15:

5:30 - 6:00 - Registration and Libation Selection

6:00 - 6:30 - Light Announcements and Chapter Business

6:30 - 8:00 - Networking, Prizes, Fun!

This is a free event! It's not too late to register.

[Register here](#)

Topic: Join the IIBA Denver Chapter for an Autumn networking event! This is a great opportunity to meet fellow business

analysis professionals in the Front Range area and interact on a social basis.

Who should attend? Anyone who works in the BA space is welcome: Business Analysts, System Analysts, Project Managers, Quality Assurance, Process Analysts, Agilists, Enterprise Analysts, or anyone who wants to network and learn more about the IIBA. Bring your business cards and join us for a great time, door prizes, and free buffet!

Cost: There is no cost to attend. Pasta bar and salad bar buffet and soft drinks provided. Cash bar.

Please feel free to bring a friend (please indicate you are bringing an extra person on your registration).

[Click this link for more information and to RSVP.](#)

Food generously provided by [ECS Team](#).

President's Letter

by Monte Malenke, President

This coming Thursday, October 15th is our Fall Networking event at LoDo's in Highlands Ranch at C-470 and Quebec that you won't want to miss. These are always great events and a perfect time to develop new contacts in our local Business Analysis community, and grow existing ones. You should have received an invite to this already, but if not be sure to register using the link in this newsletter. Many thanks to **Gary Weis**, our VP of Events, for making this happen!

Our chapter leadership continues to grow and strengthen, and I'm very excited to announce a couple of new chapter volunteers taking on some important roles for the chapter.

I'm excited to introduce **Stephanie Vinton** as our new Volunteer Coordinator within the Membership Committee. This is an important strategic role for the chapter ensuring that folks interested in volunteering are connected to volunteer needs within in the chapter. This is important in maintaining a strong leadership across the various positions and programs of the chapter, and making sure folks interested in getting involved can do so. If you have expressed interest in volunteering time with the chapter, you will probably be hearing from Stephanie to find out more about your interests and availability. If you have interest in volunteering, please email her at VolunteerCoordinator@denver.iiba.org.

Also, I am just as excited to introduce another new chapter volunteer, **Nicole Wilker**, who will be serving as our new Chapter Meeting Coordinator within the Events Committee. Nicole will be our point person to coordinate with the board members and other volunteers to make sure everything that needs to be arranged for each chapter meeting is being taken care of. This will be a big help to the board and will help centralize and streamline this responsibility. You can contact Nicole at MeetingCoordinator@denver.iiba.org. Welcome Nicole, and thanks so much for stepping up!

Bridging the Gap is an ongoing sponsor

Denver IIBA is proud to announce a Gold Sponsor for 2015! The company is [Bridging the Gap](#), a leading provider of virtual business analysis training founded by a long-time chapter member.

Laura Brandenburg, CBAP® is passionate about business analysis and about helping you find your place within it. Laura is the author of *How to Start a Business Analyst Career*, *Professional Development for Business Analysts*, and *How to Earn Your CBAP or CCBA in 3 Months*.



Laura offers business analysis courses to people who want to get started in a business analyst career or make sure they succeed in their current business analyst position. She is also providing exclusive discounts for those involved with the Chapter - check out the [sponsorship page](#) for more information.

New Sponsor!! ECS Team

Our newest sponsor is [ECS Team](#). They are the food sponsor for the October networking event.

ECS Team, a national professional services firm, provides seasoned

consultants with deep expertise in a wide range of technologies to deliver

innovative solutions. We do this while leveraging your existing technology by working side-by-side with your staff. This approach shortens time-to-market, decreases costs and lowers project risks.



For more information, please contact:

Chasity Rohl

Senior Staffing Manager

[303.565.2785](tel:303.565.2785)

crohl@ECSTeam.com

Thank you ECS Team!

Long Time Sponsor MODIS Was the Meeting Sponsor for September

As a global provider of IT staffing services, MODIS connects the very best IT professionals to great opportunities at leading companies. And we do it every single day - for both temporary and permanent assignments and across virtually all industries. We use our insight, flexibility and expanded resources to anticipate the needs of leading tech companies and help them make exceptional connections with top tech talent.



Proud Sponsor

[MODIS predicts a 25% growth for business analysts by 2022.](#)

For more information, please contact:

Kristen Short

Resource Development Manager

720-244-5309

7887 East Belleview Avenue, Suite 400

Englewood, CO 80111

The Business Tech Center Is Our Business Space Sponsor

We would like to thank The Business Tech Center for their involvement with the IIBA Denver Chapter. The BTC currently has an exclusive offer for IIBA members - get 15% off the rental rate!



To learn more, visit our website at TheBusinessTechCenter.com or contact us at [303-996-2849](tel:303-996-2849) or

info@TheBusinessTechCenter.com

View from the BABOK

by Sandi Byron, VP Marketing

3.3 Plan Business Analysis Governance

Plan Business Analysis Governance is the third listed task in the Business Analysis Planning and Monitoring knowledge area. A governance process describes how approvals and prioritization decisions are made about requirements and designs.



This is a newly defined task in V3 of the BABOK. V2 briefly mentions governance and the need to make sure that the activities to be done will support the governance needs in the Plan Business Analysis Activities section of Chapter 2.

So under the new expanded focus of the analyst role, the Business Analysts must be familiar with the organization's governance needs in order to ensure that a governance process is in place. The analysts will also clarify any ambiguities within the governance process as they relate to the project in question.

When planning the governance approach, business analysts will identify:

- how business analysis work will be approached and prioritized,
- what the process for proposing a change to business analysis information is,
- who has the authority and responsibility to propose changes and who should be involved in the change discussions,
- who has responsibility for analyzing change requests,
- who has the authority to approve changes, and
- how changes will be documented and communicated.

There are two inputs to this task:

1. The Business Analysis Approach (to ensure consistency across the approaches)
2. Stakeholder Engagement Approach (to determine stakeholder participation in the governance approach)

The stakeholders involved in this task are: domain subject matter experts, project manager, any regulators involved with the organization, and project sponsor.

There are four elements to this task:

1. Decision Making (process that defines what happens when teams cannot reach consensus)
 - a. Identifies escalation paths
 - b. Identifies key stakeholders who hold final decision-making authority
2. Change Control Process (to ensure all changes follow governance requirements)
3. Plan Prioritization Approach (how formal, who is involved, process, criteria)
4. Plan for Approvals (to formalize the agreement between all stakeholders on the requirements and designs)

The output for this task is the Governance Approach, which identifies the stakeholders who will have the responsibility and authority to make decisions about business analysis work including who will be responsible for setting priorities and who will approve changes to business analysis information. It also defines the process that will be utilized to manage requirement and design changes across the initiative.

September Meeting Recap

by Jay Galecki

The September meeting featured guest speaker Kitty Hass, who is a prominent presenter at industry conferences, and author and lecturer in strategic project management and business analysis disciplines. Kitty has managed large, complex projects in the airline, telecommunications, retail, and manufacturing industries, and in the U.S. Federal Government. Kitty is also a thought leader in the fields of business analysis and complex project management.

She gave an informative presentation about business analysis through collaboration, creativity, and deliberate design-centered innovation. The presentation was an exploration on how business analysts can foster collaboration, creativity and innovation when working across groups. Kitty stated that business analysts still spend most of their time working through tactical items (as much as 80% of their time on tactical items), and to grow their influence, it is important to move out of this focus to an innovative focus.

The goal for business analysts should be to use small iterations and get products to market faster.

You can see the presentation slides at the [bottom of this link](#).

At the end of the meeting, attendees were able to go collaborate with each other through a Q&A session. Previously, this Q&A period was before the speaker presentation. The Denver IIBA chapter plans to continue to provide a Q&A period at the end of each meeting for business analysts to collaborate and bounce ideas off of each other to address their current challenges.

Leveraging Your Chapter Resources

by Grant Warden, VP Communications

Have you ever heard the expression "Dig your well before you're thirsty?" It means you should reach out and connect with people who may be able to help you before you need their help.

Establishing an honest relationship based on mutual respect and shared interests is the best way to ensure that in your

hour of need, people will line up to ask how they can help.

Within our chapter there are certainly many other BA professionals whose attitudes, background, and skills align with yours, which makes connecting at an authentic level easy. Every job hunting source talks about the value of personal connections, of networking, so why not leverage the network within the chapter?

In the coming months, consider making a stronger connection with a fellow member or two. It could be happy hour, lunch, a walk on the weekend, or just a phone call, but spending time together to talk about a shared love of business analysis, or anything else you have in common, will strengthen the relationship, as well as your connection and engagement with the chapter.

The chapter has an active mentor program, which provides a means to formally connect with other members with the goal of exchanging ideas, tips, and strategies on the BA practice. With the collective knowledge and experience in the group, there should be at least one person with whom you can connect and share.

Chapter News

by Grant Warden, VP Communications

Chapter Awards

Based on the Denver chapter growth and success over the last year, we submitted applications for multiple award categories; however, we did not make the list of finalists. Despite our disappointment, the exercise helped us to crystallize our mission and goals for the coming years, which will pay dividends in the future.

Mentor Program

The Denver IIBA Chapter is dedicated to providing members with various resources to enhance their knowledge and expertise. One resource is our mentor program, which allows individual members to partner with each other with the goal of sharing ideas on strategies, techniques, issues, or anything else that influences their roles as Business Analysts.

We can each benefit from collaboration and sharing with other members. If you would like more information on how to participate, please contact our VP Education for more details.

Membership News

by Susan Futey, CBAP, VP Membership

Welcome new Denver Chapter members!

Theresa Hunter, Cynthia Gomez

Active Member Count: 88

Not a member yet but interested in joining?

It's a great way to network, share business analysis knowledge and experience, and learn about new techniques and processes. Best of all, membership is just **\$25/year!** [Join Now!](#)

Benefits of being a local chapter member:

- Attend chapter meetings free
- Participate in Denver Chapter elections (as candidates or as voters)
- Participate in members-only offers such as volunteer opportunities at BA World
- Get to wear a snazzy name badge at the meeting

Chapter meetings are free for IIBA Denver Chapter members, otherwise it is just \$10 per meeting to attend. First time attendees are always free however! Joining the IIBA Denver C

hapter is only \$25, but does require that you are also a member of the IIBA. Be sure to join the IIBA Denver Chapter and start attending chapter meetings for free!

You do have to be a member of the IIBA International Organization in order to join the IIBA Denver Chapter. Join IIBA through their website at www.iiba.org. IIBA [Membership benefits](#) include:



- Free copy of the [Business Analysis Body of Knowledge® \(BABOK® Guide\)](#)
- Free access to the [Online Library](#) where you will find hundreds of books
- Knowledge sharing and networking opportunities through the [IIBA Community Site](#)
- Exclusive IIBA monthly publications such as the [IIBA BA Connection monthly newsletter](#)
- Eligibility to join a local [IIBA Chapter](#)
- Access to a free copy of the [Business Analysis Competency Model](#)
- Access to [IIBA Webinars](#) on a range of professional development topics - *Hot Topic now is the BABOK V3 webinar series!*
- Job search capabilities using [Career Center](#)

If you have any questions about membership or renewal, please feel free to send an email using the [Contact Us](#) link on the IIBA Denver Chapter website.

Thanking our Volunteers!

by Monte Malenke, President

This month I'd like to recognize **Mary Anne McSweeney** as our Volunteer of the Month. She has been our CBAP Study Group coordinator in the Education Committee over the last year and half. Mary Anne stepped up to take over this responsibility after we got it started, and has done a tremendous job of maintaining a consistent and worthwhile offering of our chapter. She has been a part of the chapter leadership for a long time and is just fantastic to work with. The CBAP study group is one of the most important and valuable things we do as a chapter to help our members advance their careers, and has contributed measurable growth of the chapter over the last year and half. As you may have seen, Mary Anne will step down from this role after this last session completes so please thank her when you see her. Many, many thanks Mary Anne - you are awesome.



Call for Speakers

We are looking for speakers to speak at our chapter meetings on topics relevant to business analysts. If you have an interest in being a speaker, being part of a panel of speakers, or if you know someone who would make a great speaker, please contact Heidi at Education@denver.iiba.org. Some topics that have been suggested are listed below, but of course our interests are not limited to this list.

- BABOK Review
- Agile Extension to the BABOK
- Process Mapping
- BA Diagramming & Modeling
- Elicitation
- Enterprise Analysis

Get involved!

by Stephanie Vinton, Volunteer Coordinator

Do you want to support local Business Analysts, the profession, increase visibility to your company, or gain recertification credits? The Denver chapter is looking for help in this manner:

Corporate Programs

There is currently an opening for Corporate Programs in the Marketing Committee. If you are interested, contact marketing@denver.iiba.org.

Meeting Technology Coordinator

We are looking for someone to run the live, call-in access to our chapter meetings. This person coordinates with the meeting presenter and is the point of contact with our web/telephone participants during the meeting. It's helpful if you have a cellphone to use for texting to contact the participants during the meeting and you will need a computer to share the meeting slides. It is helpful if you have Powerpoint as that is what is used by most of our presenters. Contact Stephanie Vinton at volunteercoordinator@denver.iiba.org.

Upcoming 2015 Meetings/Events

Future meetings are scheduled every other month. The remaining meetings are:

- **October 15** - Thursday - Fall Networking Event at LoDo's Bar and Grill in Highlands Ranch. [Register here.](#)
- **Building Business Capability (BBC) Event in November** - If you are looking to support your business analysis career and development with a leading IIBA conference, check out the annual Building Business Capability (BBC) event in Las Vegas from November 2 through November 6. Many interesting topics will be presented, including a few from North Highland, the employer of one of our own CBAP members, Michelle Kahler. Get more information on the BBC website at buildingbusinesscapability.com and we hope to see you there!

- **Next Chapter Meeting** - November 18 at Business Tech Center (this is a Wednesday).

Speaker: Parker Malenke, Senior UX Designer, Pearson

Topic: User Experience (UX) for Business Analysts

More details to follow later, [Register here](#)

Certification News

by Debbie Rasor, CBAP

Need Help with your CBAP or CCBA® application?

Need another set of eyes to review your application before you submit it? Tips on applying for recertification? I can answer your questions, review your application, and offer feedback on it before you submit it. Contact me at debrasor@yahoo.com.

Newsletter Editor: Debbie Rasor, CBAP

Associate Editor: Jay Galecki

If you have a contribution to make to the IIBA Informant, please email us at editor@denver.iiba.org.

If you are interested in advertising BA-related services in the IIBA Informant, please email us at info@denver.iiba.org.

Produced by the Denver Chapter of the IIBA

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The International Institute of Business Analysis is a non-profit organization for Business Analyst professionals. The goal of the local Denver Chapter is to support IIBA by (1) advancing the role of the Business Analyst as a recognized profession, (2) support opportunities for members to network with, and gain knowledge from, seasoned BA practitioners as well as industry and government leaders, (3) provide access for members to a formal "knowledge base" as well as forums for sharing expertise, expressing professional opinions and building a reputation within the industry, (4) provide pathways to learn about business analysis best practices, and (5) obtain and sustain a level of financial security, sustainability, and autonomy at the local level.